

REMARKS

Applicants thank Examiner Mertz for the courtesy of a telephonic interview with Applicants' attorney, Diana Collazo, during which the outstanding Restriction Requirement was discussed.

Claims 1-34 are pending. Claims 1-5 have been amended to be directed to polypeptides having the particular amino acid sequence provided, or the specified sequence homology to SEQ ID NO:1 or 2. No new subject matter has been added.

Response to Restriction Requirement Under 35 U.S.C. §121

For the purpose of being responsive to the Restriction Requirement dated April 25, 2001, Applicants hereby elect the invention of Group I, claims 1-5 drawn to a polypeptide having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:1, with traverse. Applicants respectfully request rejoinder of the inventions of Groups I and II for the reasons set forth below.

As discussed during the telephonic interview with Examiner Mertz, the claims of Group II, claims 1-5, are drawn to polypeptides having the amino acid sequence of SEQ ID NO:2. SEQ ID NO:2 is a subsequence of SEQ ID NO:1 that lacks amino acids 1-368 of SEQ ID NO:1 (shown in schematic form in Figure 1, submitted herewith). Thus, a prior art search for SEQ ID NO:1 will necessarily uncover art relevant to SEQ ID NO:2, posing no additional burden on the Examiner. Given the relationship between these sequences, Applicants respectfully ask the Examiner to rejoin the inventions of Groups I and II.

Applicant : Shin-Ichi Funahashi et al.
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Attorney's Docket No.: 06501-056001 /
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SUMMARY

If a telephone conversation with Applicants' Attorney would expedite the prosecution of the above-identified application, the Examiner is urged to call Applicants' Attorney at (617) 542-5070.

A petition for an extension of time and check for the required fee are being filed concurrently herewith. Please apply any additional charges or credits to Deposit Account No. 06-1050, referencing attorney docket number 06501-056001.

Respectfully submitted,

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Diane Kelly Reg No. 46,635
for Janis K. Fraser, Ph.D., J.D.
Reg. No. 34,819

Fish & Richardson P.C.
225 Franklin Street
Boston, MA 02110-2804
Telephone: (617) 542-5070
Facsimile: (617) 542-8906

Version with markings to show changes made

In the claims:

Claims 1-4 have been amended as follows:

1. (First Time Amended) A substantially pure polypeptide comprising an amino acid sequence at least 85% identical to [any one of] SEQ ID NOs:1[, or 2[, 82, 83, or 84], wherein the polypeptide contains a PDZ domain sequence.

2. (First Time Amended) The polypeptide of claim 1, wherein the amino acid sequence is at least 90% identical to [any one of] SEQ ID NOs:1[, or 2[, 82, 83, or 84].

3. (First Time Amended) A substantially pure polypeptide comprising the sequence of [any one of] SEQ ID NOs: 1[, or 2[, 82, 83, or 84].

4. (First Time Amended) A substantially pure polypeptide comprising the amino acid sequence of [any one of] SEQ ID NOs: 1[, or 2[, 82, 83, or 84], with up to 50 conservative amino acid substitutions, wherein the polypeptide contains a PDZ domain sequence.

5. (First Time Amended) A substantially pure polypeptide encoded by a nucleic acid that hybridizes under high stringency conditions to a probe the sequence of which consists of [any one of] SEQ ID NOs:3, 59, 75, 78, 79, 80, or 81, [85, 86, or 87,] wherein the polypeptide contains a PDZ domain sequence.